My dear Tom — Naples July 5th 1822.

&c. I have many things to say to which I know would not be very interesting to you. I have deferred writing until my arrival here — that I might tell you all what I know will be grateful news — my arrival here in safety after a journey of 6 days. — I have made this journey with 2 young English Ladies and their Mamma — they are the Nieces of the late Lord Erskine and are very lovely Girls. — The Mother mentioned to me her intention of taking this journey and asked me if I would like to accompany them — of course I was delighted at the proposal of travelling with 2 English Ladies — handsome and noble — and above all most delightfully behaved Girls to me as the other do — When I first saw them. I said to myself "take care Master Joe — you'll lose your heart — you had better not trust yourself with them" — but I was tempted — the polite behaviour of the Mother and the English beauty and manners of the Daughter took away from me even a thought of refusal — Well I was the only Knight all the way — and had to keep awake [illegible] during the festivities that took place — we chatted and chatted — and what do you think — why I am desperately in love with the youngest of them — I need not be — but why should I try not to be? or I say now — this Lady is highly born and educated most agreeable amiable and lovely in mind and person — She is possessed of a most ample Fortune and noble relations — Therefore I see this as a proper chance as a bachelor bit — for I might be successful — only think my dear Brother it would raise me in the world — and for the all my views — so far I have indeed great attentions from them particularly my favorite — all the journey — and something whispers me that I might be successful — to ascertain that I have won the old Lady — and that is no little point gained — Poor Foster — what a destitute fellow I am — always in hot water — have I cause to stop and pray the time in quiet and old Boots doing nothing but bathing in the Sea and reading my state — all is knocked on the head — for the 2 first days of my arrival I was going to the House every other hour — but [illegible]

But this has terminated only to [illegible] some thing like the one I had in Rome — After I had been here 4 days I was taken with a swimming in the head — and I nearly fainted — Dr Clark who is here attended me with his usual kindness — he accounted for it in this way — that the terrible heat and bad food on the journey had thrown my Stomach in a false state — which I should have got right as soon as I arrived here but not doing so — and jogging about in the hot Sun — produced the effects — I have now been well cleared out and am on my legs again — but quite very weak — However this Paradise of Naples will soon restore me — with Gardens — Mountains — Grottos and Theatres — an Italian Mountebank with his wife and [illegible] are now here — me to [illegible] and the whole is completed with

many dear Friends for there is not a lovely spot here but where I find some kind friend with them who wishes to receive me — I have got invitations to visit several "out n treats" from kind hospitable Friends who have come here to spend the Summer — At present I am living in the House of a kind English woman whose Sister came with us from England — she died soon after her Mother of Consumption — her Brother thinks that he can never enough repay me for my attentions to her — so to make them more to me than even I may like to come to Naples —

When I have got through my Picture I purpose going to live with some Monks in the Monastery of S. Martino — Don't be alarmed I am not further from Catholicism than ever I was — but I go to study — I have three Pictures under the Lens — after this I purpose going to Rome — where there is to paint my Father's long promised Landscape — I have made many sketches of Landscape on the journey — and begin to long after it — This Female part of Mankind has changed many Painters into Landscape Painters — I hope it will not be my case — the canes are rods and I must try my hand — the Letters have come yet not the Letter which I wish — I have not heard of you since we left Florence — I wrote from Rome — I wrote home — and now in love to you all and to be avenged — as shall be when you wish I want to hear from me — I shall have to write first to you — Those Letters to write are the time to think of you — Dear Maria this time I will do every thing to forget her — naughty girl to give me so much anxiety as you did — but I can be revenged — I can be even — for my fair Lady here is named Maria — and much resembles my dearer Maria — in amiable manners and goodness — and even in person & fancy & manners — so I will transfer all my love to her and all my thoughts and letters and works shall be for her eyes and approbation — this is a capital idea to be revenged — for my heart is so warm that it must have love — and if any one don't care a fig for me — why I will take a wife and make a home of my own — but I know you take care greatly for me — I cannot imagine why I do not receive Letters — I have directed you to receive 30 £ from Messrs. Bingham & Richards of Old Jewry on the Account of Mr John Preston of Rome — give this to Sarah and desire to be made use of in any way they may think proper — to pay those debts of mine — but more particularly to make some little acknowledgment to the my dear Sisters for their never ending kindness to me — tell Sarah that they were generous than my self and that I send them 100 £ marriage portions — tell them first to take whatever sum they please from the 30 £ — as a little Memento of their friend Brother Joseph — for what he can never repay or ever forget — I would have sent more but cannot — as my debts become very expensive

+ direct to me there Joseph Severn Esq.
Alla cura di Messr. Co

In your letters over from I have thanks, joy and comfort not so much at the Money he you have sent as at the News about yourself and Charles. I always thought a good fate was for you, but now you should make that you might expectations. I shall give you Advice while the greatest Deference because you stand less in need of it than I did at your Age and because you write know every thing that is right and proper for yourself — that it may find you a shorter way than I had and that much pains will be made for I went many round about ways. The greatest want I have felt in the which I am daily sensible of is a knowledge of some Language and more than a great deal with the Genius of Books — now these are the points we shall have from you might advice for as in every case you will feel the want of them — You may soon have read all Letters the distinguished Orators or the Foreign Courts matters of Business and then you are to find yourself at a loss — for and mine are Letters where only or more frequently recorded and as Richard took much at those little artificial things which are than of it's Duty or use to enable us to express them ——

Now what I am going to advice most is — that you study Letter writing a little — for I need not tell you that to find bye good sense — and clear understanding your other shining abilities (the which I am not a friend to) any other person will be disregarded by the writing that it gave me great pain you may to trouble I may have to tell you — You must also Italian this will be equal to you in Music — but practice the knowledge of by Gut Grammar Italian Grammar — Boyd's Dictionary — and Mangnall's Grammar you write over all the rules of it and get them perfect by heart. write down your Exercises — taking care to write them write always have a Dictionary by you — and after a short time it will be no more than to get right. — make a rule to write a half hour every day ——

Now I pray you my dear Tom — to do this — and not laugh at me & say that you do not stand in need of it — that you have not time — inclination — You will find me daily of you still feel so much about it — It is you alone you have to depend upon — You have advanced before all your friends by your abilities and perseverance — you stand in a situation which may become a most desirable one — and yet you will not only in point be inferior to all you have preceded — but have them even laugh and despise you for what they will call your meanness as there is very little to, make it seem that you have been educated with Father to agree with me in all those things — he writes ill and feels the need of it — I wish that you could see here eleven young men who are trodden down by from the want of these trifling points — who are little read — have vulgar and ungramatical manners of speaking — and in every other respect are superior to those who laugh at them — It is just as much as I can do to keep out of this — I rank in the highest and best Societies here — but it has cost me and

Cottingham Freeborn
Naples Italia

cost me much trouble — get without I should sink — I gain half my purpose too
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save